

true friend, and has dedicated herself to principled service to the city and people of Rohnert Park. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

IN RECOGNITION OF RANKING
MEMBER GREG WALDEN

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend and colleague, Ranking Member GREG WALDEN, as he begins a new chapter in his life.

For two decades, GREG served a community that he loved with his whole heart. He saw his constituents as more than the people who entrusted him with this job, but as family and friends who needed their voices heard in Washington.

It wasn't always easy. Long weeks away from family never are. But GREG kept taking those six hour flights from coast to coast because he loved the work and he was committed to the causes that brought him here in the first place.

And as he rose through the Energy and Commerce Committee, he grew close to both me and my husband, John.

There have certainly been a fair share of spirited debates over policies that we are both passionate about. But the moments spent agreeing on legislation that was signed into law and impacts our constituents today are the memories I'll always cherish.

Though we will miss GREG in 2123 Rayburn, we are all excited for what his future holds. Hope to see my friend again soon.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JUSTUS
MURRAY AMMONS

HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Mr. HOLDING. Madam Speaker, I rise today to take pause and reflect on the life of Justus Murray Ammons.

Jud Ammons grew up on a farm in Western North Carolina, where sharecropping and plowing gardens shaped what he called his "country boy" work ethic. At N.C. State, he dabbled in his first entrepreneurial pursuits, including selling books, starting a laundry pickup business and working as an engineer for the State of North Carolina, all on top of college classes. He also met his wife, JoEllen and they were married in 1957 in Monroe, North Carolina.

Madam Speaker, Jud and JoEllen spent their early married years traveling the world while Jud served in the U.S. Air Force and then worked as department head with CP&L. In the mid-1960s, the Ammons settled in Raleigh, North Carolina where Jud founded Ammons Construction Company. As a real estate developer, Jud built, owned and operated major subdivisions, day care facilities, golf course communities, industrial parks, retirement communities and shopping centers from the mountains to the coast. He sincerely cared

about what he was doing and about the people he was building for, no matter the project.

Jud was a savvy businessman, although he claimed it was "common sense." Encouraged by seniors in his church Jud developed Springmoor Retirement Community in North Raleigh. The community is the cornerstone of Greystone and pioneered the concept of a planned urban development incorporating amenities that allow residents to live, work, play, worship and go to school in a cohesive community. In 2000, he wrote a book named for his life motto, "Don't Wish You Had, Be Glad You Did."

Decades ago, Jud coached basketball, soccer and football; more recently, he kept a list of grandchildren's sports and activities schedules in his back pocket, filling nights and weekends to the brim to make it to as many games, recitals and performances as possible.

Always driven by the desire to meet the needs of the people of Raleigh, Jud served in leadership on the Wake County Planning Commission, Raleigh Greenway Commission, Raleigh City Task Force and Raleigh Bicentennial Commission. He was president and board member of the Raleigh-Wake County Home Builders Association and director of the National Association of Home Builders. In 2011, he was inducted into the Raleigh Hall of Fame. He and JoEllen helped found Greystone Baptist Church, where he served as deacon, Sunday School teacher and trustee. He served on several legislative study commissions, as a member of the Raleigh volunteer fire department and as a trustee of Mars Hill College in his hometown. Jud also loved raising champion beagles and was inducted into the Brace Beagley Hall of Fame.

Jud was quick to tell a joke and a story, usually using his own dictionary of "Jud-isms." A respected developer and businessman, he believed in dreaming big, working hard, and taking risks. But most of all, he loved God and his family, including his late wife, JoEllen, their four children and their 13 grandchildren.

Sadly, Madam Speaker, Jud Ammons passed away this year on October 18, 2020. He was 85 years old. He will be missed by his friends, neighbors, family, and the entire community.

IN HONOR OF LARRY MOODY

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Larry Moody as he concludes his service on the city council of East Palo Alto, and after 14 years of service to the community as both a trustee of the school district and councilmember.

Larry grew up in Hartford, Connecticut, and was the youngest of eight children. He was an enterprising young man rising early to deliver the Hartford Courant newspaper and later becoming student body president at his high school in both his junior and senior years. He lettered in three sports and captained the New England Championship Basketball Team. He matriculated to Trinity College, with a major in political science, and later joined the U.S. Air Force.

In 1993, he came to East Palo Alto and immersed himself in ministry and youth sports.

By 2006, as an established leader, he ran for the school board and was elected. He and other trustees immediately concluded that progress evaluations would include everyone, not just the students. That year, the district had the highest gain in achievement scores in its history. Larry also brought Menlo Park Presbyterian Church into the Ravenswood Education Foundation and contributions soared.

In 2012, he ran for the city council. The city is a diverse community in the heart of Silicon Valley filled with an extremely hard-working population. Median household income is about 50 percent of San Mateo County's. The city's tax base supports a police department, community development, public works and other activities but there is no formal parks and recreation department. Violence within the community needed to be curbed. Larry wanted his city to offer the kinds of safety and services routinely provided to residents of surrounding communities. Developing the tax base was critical.

To overcome a development moratorium, Councilman Moody spearheaded a critical effort to obtain water from two neighboring communities. To curb violence, he supported, among many efforts, community-based organizations to reach out to areas in town that were hotspots, a domestic violence program at the police department, and increasing the number and pay of the city's hard-pressed police force. Crime trended sharply downward. As the city became safer, major employers noticed. For example, Amazon established a large facility in the community, annually contributing nearly \$500,000 in property taxes to the city's general fund. Steady increases in all tax revenues meant that a dream of Larry's, summer youth programs, commenced. Youth development programs, including those through former President Obama's My Brother's Keeper program, are a high priority for Larry.

Housing remains a major challenge. As a councilmember, Larry supported the establishment of the local homeless shelter, Project WeHope, the creation of a recreational vehicle parking program, the development of hundreds of new units on city-owned lands and at the site of existing affordable housing. Some of these projects happened in part because he and his council colleagues insisted that Facebook contribute \$20 million to meet the community's needs.

When he learned that countywide money was available for senior housing, Larry led the city in securing those funds as a down payment on a project along University Avenue which was decades in the making. When \$80,000 was identified for housing renovation purposes, Larry and a local non-profit leader developed a program of weatherization of apartments for low-income residents.

As he often says, capital improvements are not sexy, but they are needed. While on the council, he strongly supported the creation of a pedestrian/bike bridge over Highway 101, linking west side residents to the city's grocery and shopping areas on the east side. New storm water pipes down Bay Road and new wells for drinking water began during his council service.

Larry Moody led other council members regionally as the President of the Peninsula Chapter of the League of California Cities, and served on the statewide organization's committee on parks and recreation. At my request,

he graciously agreed to serve on a regional body that made important recommendations to the FAA regarding intrusive noise impacts on East Palo Alto and surrounding communities.

Madam Speaker, we know Larry Moody as a coach, community leader, elected leader, and booster of all things East Palo Alto but, ultimately, we know him as a man with unbounded faith in the potential of human beings. Give this man a single ray of hope for the future and he produces a blinding day of possibilities.

As he steps down from the city council, his wife Lisa, their four sons Larry Jr., Tyler, Isaiah and Cameron, will once again have Larry home each night. We thank them for their patience as he served, but their gain is our loss. Let us salute Larry Moody for his service to us all. He will long be remembered as the man who led with a smile and an enormous heart.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF URIEL PADGETT

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Uriel Burton Padgett. As a fellow service member, I am grateful for Mr. Padgett's dedication to family, state, and country.

Uriel Padgett was born October 7, 1934 in Magee, MS to Luke and Novice Kennedy. He was married to Mattie Lee Middleton Padgett for 65 years and together the two had two children, five grandchildren, and ten great grandchildren.

In March of 1952, Uriel joined the Mississippi National Guard. He served in many positions throughout his career and served as a founding member of the Special Forces Unit in the Mississippi Guard. His first NCOS class was in Mississippi and he went on to instruct the course. Uriel deeply enjoyed his time at Camp Shelby before retiring in 1989 as the Assistant United States Property and Fiscal Officer and was later promoted to Brigadier General.

Uriel spent his retirement travelling with his wife, learning woodworking, and attending arts and crafts shows. He was an active member of the Exchange Club of West Jackson, Rankin County Civitan Club, Oak Hill Lodge, and the American Legion. He was a dedicated charter member of Brandon Baptist Church. Uriel loved music and spending time outdoors. He played many instruments and could be found in his garden or riding his tractor.

Mr. Padgett is survived by his wife, Mattie Lee Middleton Padgett; children, Steve and Deborah; grandchildren, Greg, Alisha, Jana, and Ashley; and ten great-grandchildren.

Uriel Padgett was a dedicated husband and father, a servant to his state, and a man of faith. He will be deeply missed by all who had the opportunity to know and love him.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TRANS-ATLANTIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS SECURITY ACT

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the bipartisan Transatlantic Telecommunications Security Act. I am grateful to my colleague ADAM KINZINGER of Illinois for his partnership in co-leading this critically needed piece of legislation.

The United States and our allies face down increased threats from global actors like a rising China and belligerent Russia that seek to export their malign influence and undermine democratic institutions.

China seeks to compromise allied critical telecommunications infrastructure by using statelinked companies like Huawei and ZTE to unfairly induce our allies to procure insecure fifth generation telecommunications equipment and services.

Bipartisan current and former U.S. officials and civil society members have recognized the threat of malign influence over critical telecommunications networks. 50 networks will serve as the backbone of artificial intelligence platforms with immense national security and domestic economic implications. Secure telecommunications are also critical for military interoperability with our European allies at a time when NATO coordination is needed now more than ever.

Given these critical national security needs, the United States must provide our allies alternatives to Chinese financing and provide increased diplomatic support to our allies to ensure secure telecommunications lines.

This legislation would authorize the U.S. Development Finance Corporation to provide financing for cross-border 5G telecommunications infrastructure development to our allies. This financing is key to remove risky and threatening equipment and replace it with secure equipment. The legislation seeks to increase resilience in countries in the region whose infrastructure deficit from the Soviet-era makes them especially vulnerable to malign Chinese influence, including among nations in the Three Seas Initiative.

Additionally, this bill directs the Secretary of State and other relevant agency heads to prioritize diplomacy and project support with European allies and partners to develop 5G markets that are inclusive, transparent, economically viable, socially sustainable, and compliant with international law. Finally, this legislation ensures the United States is leading with our European allies to develop international 5G standards that favor democratic institutions, not further authoritarianism spread by China and Russia.

Following unanimous House passage of H. Res. 672 supporting the Three Seas Initiative and the enactment of the bipartisan European Energy Security and Diversification Act, this bill is the next critically needed step for Congress to secure our transatlantic allies and partners from malign influence.

I urge all my colleagues to support this critical legislation.

HONORING MAYOR ROY SWEARINGEN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mayor Roy Swearingen, and to celebrate his over 16 years of public service to the City of Pinole.

Mayor Swearingen has been a resident of Pinole for over 40 years. He began his career in construction and eventually owned his own small business. He is a dedicated public servant, having spent 16 years on the Pinole City Council, leading the Council as Mayor for five of those years. He has also served on the Pinole Chamber of Commerce for six years, including two years as president.

Drawing upon his many years in business, Mayor Swearingen has helped guide the City of Pinole through many challenges and hardships. His leadership during the 2008 recession, including steering the effort to create a balanced budget, was vital to the City of Pinole's economic recovery. Mayor Swearingen's business acumen was indispensable in guiding the recent upgrade to the Pinole/Hercules Water Pollution Control Plant, which will help keep our oceans clean and will benefit the community for generations to come.

Mayor Swearingen's dedication to his community extends beyond the roles that he has served in office. He is a highly involved member of the Pinole Rotary Club and the West Contra Costa Police Activities League, having served as president of both organizations. Though he is retiring from the City Council, Mayor Swearingen will continue to serve his community as the Treasurer of the City of Pinole. His leadership and expertise will surely be an asset in the coming years.

Madam Speaker, Mayor Roy Swearingen's integrity and continued dedication to public service is an inspiration to us all. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

RECOGNIZING 155TH ANNIVERSARY OF 13TH AMENDMENT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 7, 2020

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my fellow Congressional Black Caucus members for coming together this evening to recognize and acknowledge the 155th anniversary of the ratification of the 13th Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Mr. Speaker, 1865 was certainly a turning point in the history of our nation, with the end of the Civil War and the assassination of one of our greatest presidents, Abraham Lincoln.

But the ideal over which the Civil War was fought and President Lincoln died was not fulfilled until late in that year—155 years ago yesterday, in fact.

When Georgia became the 27th state to ratify the 13th Amendment, on December 6, 1865, our country formally put an end to the practice of chattel slavery in this country.